



State of Wisconsin
Governor Scott Walker

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Ben Brancel, Secretary

DATE: June 24, 2016

TO: DATCP Board

FROM: Ben Brancel, Secretary
John Petty, Administrator, Agricultural Resources Management Division

SUBJECT: Wisconsin Fertilizer Research Council Appointments for 2016

The Wisconsin Fertilizer Research Council consists of seven voting members. Three members represent the fertilizer industry, three members represent farmers who are crop producers, and one member is a water quality expert. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Dean of the University of Wisconsin, College of Agricultural Life Sciences (CALS) jointly appoint the industry and grower representatives. The Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) appoints the water quality expert. All members voluntarily serve no more than two consecutive three-year terms.

This year, we have two members of the Fertilizer Research Council (FRC) who have completed their second three-year terms. Industry representative Andy Walsh, and grower representative, Jason Henschler, are leaving the FRC because their second three-year term expires on June 30, 2016.

Joe Kennicker has been appointed to represent the fertilizer industry, and Rod Gumz has been appointed as a grower representative.

Joe is an Agronomist, secretary and co-owner of Greg's Feed & Seed, Inc. located in South Wayne, Wisconsin. Joe has over 24 years of experience within the agricultural retail business sector. In 1995, Joe became a Certified Crop Advisor (CCA). Since 2012, Joe has served on the Wisconsin Agri-Business Association's (WABA) Board of Directors. Joe is currently the Vice President of WABA.

Rod started Gumz Muck Farms LLC in Endeavor, Wisconsin, with his brother in 1996. Rod serves on the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Growers Association (WPVGA) and is president of the Muck Farmers Association. He has worked in collaboration with the University on research plots, and has experience with providing funding to fertilizer research projects through his work with the WPVGA.

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